

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An apparatus for managing a state of  
an external apparatus connected thereto, comprising:  
a database storing the state of the  
external apparatus;
- 10 a managed object (MO) managing the state  
of the external apparatus, the MO being provided in  
said database and realized by an application; and  
a control interface for said MO performing  
outer control from said database, the interface  
15 being provided in said MO.
- 20 2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
further comprising a result notification interface  
for notifying said database of a result of the outer  
control performed by said MO with the result being  
correlated with the control, the result notification  
25 interface being provided in said MO.
- 30 3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
further comprising a change notification interface  
for notifying said MO of a change in the state of  
the external apparatus, the change notification  
interface being provided in said MO.

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4. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
further comprising a protocol conversion part  
converting a first protocol into a second protocol  
for transmitting information between said database  
5 and the external apparatus.

10 5. The apparatus as claimed in claim 4,  
wherein said database and said protocol conversion  
part comprise a server computer managing the  
external apparatus.

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6. The apparatus as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein said MO performs outer control or a  
20 notification is transmitted to said MO from outside  
before said database completes transaction  
processing requested by a user application connected  
to the apparatus.

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7. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6,  
further comprising an event notification interface  
30 for notifying the user application of an event, the  
event notification interface being provided in said  
MO.

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8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6,

wherein an operation statement for operating said MO is provided in a query language for posing a query to said database from the user application.

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9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said MO is operated by using a reference statement of a query language for posing a query to said database from the user application.

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10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said control interface is provided with a function of extending transaction processing in said database.

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11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein control of establishing a session with said database is extended so that operations of a plurality of users are performed as one transaction.

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12. A method of managing a state of an apparatus, the method realizing a managed object (MO) by an application and storing the state of the apparatus in a database, the MO managing the state of the apparatus,

wherein the MO is provided inside the

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database and performs outer control therefrom via a control interface.

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13. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said database is notified of a result of the outer control via a result notification interface provided in the MO with the result being correlated with the control.

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14. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the MO is notified of a change in the state of the apparatus provided external to the database via a change notification interface provided in the MO.

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15. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein a protocol conversion part converts a first protocol into a second protocol for transmitting information between the database and the apparatus.

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16. The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a server computer comprising the database and the protocol conversion part manages the apparatus connected to the server computer.

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17. The method as claimed in claim 16,  
wherein the MO performs outer control or a  
notification is transmitted to the MO from outside  
before the database completes transaction processing  
5 requested by a user application connected to the  
server computer.

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18. The method as claimed in claim 17,  
wherein the user application is notified of an event  
via an event notification interface provided in the  
MO.

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19. The method as claimed in claim 17,  
20 wherein an operation statement for operating the MO  
is provided in a query language for posing a query  
to the database from said user application.

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20. The method as claimed in claim 17,  
wherein the MO is operated by using a reference  
statement of a query language for posing a query to  
30 the database from the user application.

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21. The method as claimed in claim 12,  
wherein the control interface is provided with a  
function of extending transaction processing in the

database.

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22. The method as claimed in claim 12,  
wherein control of establishing a session with the  
database is extended so that operations of a  
plurality of users are performed as one transaction.

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